

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An information system includes a client component resident on a computer of the user, a server, and a database storage unit. The server is coupled to the computer and an internetwork such as the Internet. The server collects electronic information corresponding to a user's predetermined customized profile for delivery to the client component from the internet sites and the server. The database storage unit is coupled to the server. Electronic information collected by the server is used to populate at least one archive stored in the database storage unit. The archive is associated with the user's profile. The server sends checksums identifying the collected electronic information to the client component. The client component verifies that the electronic information has not previously been sent to the client component. The client component generates and transmits a message to the server indicating the electronic information that has been previously sent to the client component. The server deletes electronic information that has been previously sent to the client component from the archive. The server compresses electronic information remaining in the archive into a streaming format and sends the electronic information to the client component. The electronic information is decompressed by the client component and provided to the user via the computer. The invention also includes related methods.